

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 24005 120959Z

14

ACTION EB-11

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3113

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC, CH, FR

EXCON

1. SERCEL REPRESENTATIVE CALLED ON EDO TO DISCUSS PENDING SALES TO CHINESE WHO INTERESTED IN WIDE RANGE OF SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT FOR GEOPHYSICAL AND SIESMIC SURVEYS AND OIL EXPLORATION. THESE NEGOTIATIONS IN EARLY STAGE AND SERCEL, BECAUSE OF PAST EXCON PROBLEMS AND FACT SOME SERCEL EQUIPMENT CONTAINS US COMPONENTS, MERELY WANTED ALERT USG TO THESE DISCUSSIONS.

2. CHINESE HAVE EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN IMMEDIATE ACQUISITION OF FULLY EQUIPPED SIESMIC SURVEY SHIP. SERCEL PARENT COMPANY, COMPAGNIA GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIC (CGG) HAS SEISMIC SURVEY SHIP LADY ISABELLE WHICH CURRENTLY OPERATING OFF ATLANTIC COAST OF CANADA. THEY WILLING SELL THIS SHIP AND CHINESE APPARENTLY WILLING TO BUY. CRUCIAL INSTRUMENTATION ON LADY ISABELLE INCLUDES AND ITT SATELLITE RECEIVER LINKED TO A DIGITAL EQUIPMENT CORP. PDP8 COMPUTER AND A MARQUARDT SONAR-DOPPLER SYSTEM. IF THIS EQUIPMENT CAN BE LICENSED FOR SALE TO CHINESE, CGG HOPES TO SIGN CONTRACT IN NEAR FUTURE. IF NOT, THEY WISH TERMINATE NEGOTIATIONS ASAP.

3. HAVE PROMISED CGG ADVISORY OPINION WITHIN 10 DAYS, I.E. COB SEPTEMBER 21. REQUEST OEC OPINION BY THAT DATE INDICATING PROBABILITY, POSSIBILITY OR IMPOSSIBILITY GRANTING LICENSE FOR THIS EQUIPMENT.

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DECON JUNE 1974.

STONE

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Message Attributes

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